

**District VI Advisory Board
Minutes**
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**Monday
April 6, 2009
6:30 p.m.**

**Evergreen Recreation Center
2700 N. Woodland
Lounge Clubroom**

The District VI Advisory Board meeting was held at 6:30 p.m. at the Evergreen Recreation Center Lounge Clubroom 2700 N. Woodland. District VI councilwoman led the meeting with ten (10) District Advisory Board members in attendance, eight (8) city staff and eleven (11) members of the public who signed in.

Members Present

C. Bickley Foster
Charlie Claycomb
Carol Skaff
Jaya Escobar
Janet Miller
Bob Wine
Pat Randleas
John VanWalleghen
Bob Aldrich
Marsha Carr

Members Absent

Bob Schreck

Staff Present

Terri Dozal, Neighborhood Assistant
Officer Feuerborn, Patrol North
Officer Davidson, Patrol West
Battalion Chief Hughes, Fire
Jess McNeely, Planner
Officer Schweithale, Patrol South
City Manager Robert Layton
Shawn Mellies, Public Works

Guests

Listed at end

Council Member Fearey called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m. welcoming everyone and asked members to introduce themselves and state their representation on the board.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes for March 2, 2009 were approved as submitted. **(Claycomb/Carr 10-0)**

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with an amendment. **(Wine/Skaff 10-0)**

Recognition

At this time the meeting was paused to present a gift to **Council Member Fearey** from DAB members. **Member Foster** spokesperson thanked her for all the outstanding work she has done while serving on council for the past eight years. A few notes (people may not be aware of) about **Fearey** were that she used a selection committee for appointing the DAB members from neighborhoods, **Fearey** constantly encouraged the community to voice their opinions and initiated the idea for staff to do pre-meetings with neighborhoods before coming to the DAB with issues just to name a few. Thank you for all you have done. Cake and punch were then served.

Fearey also spoke saying it had been her pleasure to have served the community for the past eight years and thanked the DAB members for their time and efforts to assist her.

The meeting resumed at 7:00 p.m.

City Manager Robert Layton was present to discuss the upcoming 2009 budget for the City of Wichita. A PowerPoint presentation along with handouts was provided. **Mr. Layton** stated with the slowdown of the

economy and with an impact to Wichita since late summer a Budget Steering Committee from Department Heads was formed. The committee was to provide direction for reducing expenditures and setting guidelines. Based on Council goals and policies, staff developed 10 ‘guiding principals’

The following are the guiding principles:

- Public safety
- Maintain services for the residents in the greatest economic need.
- Empower citizens to impact their neighborhoods through partnerships.
- Protect the City’s investment in its infrastructure.
- Use technology to improve operations while introducing cost efficiencies.
- Maintain a skilled workforce.
- Invest in economic development
- Protect partnerships for outside funding for service delivery.
- Value the cultural arts and work to strengthen private partnerships.
- Pursue organizational restructuring and process improvement.

The following are comments/questions from DAB:

- What is the City doing to prepare if there is some closing of police substations?
- How many law enforcement personnel will be on the street to protect?
- The City needs to leverage residents by not cutting training (Citizens’ Academy)
- Fire stations – will there be a cut in response time?
- With the economic picture you have presented, what is the City doing to address long term issues?
- Adopt -A-Park program could assist with park grounds but give us residents the training first.
- If our kids are not using the swimming pools we need to be concerned they could be out vandalizing instead.

Mr. Layton responded to all the concerns/questions from DAB saying this is just a draft budget and within the next few months we will be reviewing what all the DAB’s have included as concerns/comments.

Public Agenda

1. **Scheduled items:** *Kim Pennington: 911 supervisor* began saying she had left 911 materials on the back table for people to pick up. Also, *Pennington* said calling our 911 services not what you see on reality TV. She discussed how the call center answers call for 26 different agencies with around 360,000 calls a year. The caller does not know that the operator is working on both phone and radio calls while asking questions of you so she can get whatever assistance is needed without delaying response. Protocol requires certain calls are to be asked scripted questions due to regulations. Also, she said cordless phones with low batteries can send out false 911 calls.

Aldrich asked if there is another number to be used than nine (9). *Pennington* responded that the FCC legislation was looking at changing the number but didn’t know when. **Carr** asked if she could send her presentation by email to the neighborhood assistant so she could send out to more people. *Pennington* said she would.

Fearey asked what kind of training operators received as she had made a 911 call and when she explained to the operator what was happening the operator responded so what’s the issue. *Pennington* said if you have those kinds of issues ask to speak to a supervisor.

Wine said he had to call 911 as his wife had fallen. They responded within five (5) minutes and then did a great job. **Randleas** finished saying she was proud of her daughter who works for 911 and they do a wonderful job. **Fearey** thanked *Pennington* for all the information and was sure the neighborhoods would be interested in learning about this.

Cindy Ponce: Spanish Recruiter Specialist for Youthville said she was here to invite everyone to attend an informational meeting any 2nd Tuesday or 4th Thursday on “How to become a Foster parent”. *Ponce* said with the

recent lay-offs and separation/divorce they are receiving between 25-35 youth that need emergency placement. Many of the youth are Hispanic. *Youthville* can also use mentors, donations and volunteers.

2. **Off-agenda items:** None at this time

***** **Action:** Provide comments/take appropriate action.

Staff Presentations

3. **Community Police Report**

Patrol West: Officer Davidson 14 Beat said SE of Central/West Streets there was a clean-up with 20 volunteers. There continues to be an increase in larcenies to autos in apartment complexes near Zoo Blvd. Officer's arrested an individual and since then larcenies have decreased. Please remember to call 911 when you see suspicious activity

Patrol North: Officer Feuerborn 42 Beat repeated that the community should be proactive. Officers will be issuing a community contact list to neighbors. Officers continue to work special assignments on prostitution. There was a prostitution John sting held on the 31st with arrests made of six John cases and four on prostitution. This was done in joint activity with Patrol South who had seven arrests. *Project Butterfly* continues this is a program where officers hand out toiletries and information to prostitutes.

Patrol South: Officer Schweithale Old Town said there continues to be an increase in crime. March showed a decrease in auto larcenies. Officers continue to use the rental cars as bait. Officers will be doing presentations to businesses about safety in Old Town. Please keep your valuables out of vision in your vehicles. There has been an issue about funding for the camera system previously discussed.

***** **Action:** Receive and file

4. **Fire Department Report**

Battalion Chief Hughes went over the amount of fires/alarms responded to from March. *Hughes* explained the department would be offering a Citizens Fire Academy starting May 7th. The class size will range from 14-18 individuals.

Claycomb asked when he thought the second class would be. *Hughes* said he was not sure when the next class would be. *Hughes* said he would bring in the year-end totals for the next meeting.

***** **Action:** Receive and file

New Business

5. **CON2009-00009 4710 W CENTRAL ST**

The District VI Advisory Board (DAB) considered a City Conditional Use to permit a boarding kennel on property zoned LC Limited Commercial, located at 4710 West Central (north of Central, east of Anna).

The members were provided the MAPD staff report for review prior to the meeting. *Jess McNeely*, Planner presented the case background, reviewed the staff recommendation and answered questions of members and the public.

The Board asked the following questions/comments: *Responses in italics provided by Terri Grooms, applicant.*

- Will there be additional parking provided if needed? *Yes. Four more spaces in front and six on the side for employees. This will be sufficient parking for drop-off, as cars will come and go. We looked at various options and adjusted the parking several times. We don't want our customers inconvenienced.*
- Does this business have/need a State Kennel License? *There will be inspections by the National Pet Service, State facility inspection requirement affiliation with a veterinarian. There will be visits on site 2/3 times a year to review records and look for wellness checks of dogs.*

- I don't see where there will be grass for when walking dogs. *There will be asphalt space for walking the dogs with little landscaping. An indoor doggy potty has been chosen so dogs don't go outside. This is best for this type of business. Our intention is to not walk a dog on a leash.*
- What kind of privacy fence will be used? *As a Conditional Use case the fence needs to be wood.*
- What is the hour of operation? *From 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.*
- Why do dogs bark? *Dogs bark because they get bored. Dogs that play all day will sleep at night with no barking.*
- Is there a lot of boarding of dogs? *Maybe 4-5 days or over the weekend. This is an advantage for the dogs as they are used to being here and they know our staff.*
- Have you ever had to nullify and void a case like this? If so, then what? *A complaint will be registered with OCI. They in turn talk to the Planning department. The business is given an opportunity to get into compliance before any sever action takes place.*

There were no members of the public to speak in favor/opposition of the request.

******Action:** The DAB VI members made a motion to recommend to City Council Approval (**Aldrich/Claycomb 9-1 Wine**) of the conditional use request based on staff recommendations.

6. Sanitary Sewer project located on W 33rd St N

Shawn Mellies Public Works staff presented the case background on the project that will provide sanitary sewer to a developed residential area. The members were provided the staff report with assessments for review prior to the meeting

Randleas asked if the person wanting this was from the larger lot and if they were on septic? *Yes they were the ones wanting this and don't know if they are on a septic system now. Can just one person hook up at present? They can but we are looking at this for possible future development.*

Fearey included someday that septic will fail and they will have to hook up to city sewer then.

Aldrich asked how many other properties will benefit. *Not sure.* Can you check to see if other areas want sewer service?

***** **Action:** The District Advisory Board made a motion to recommend approval of the petition based on staff recommendations. (**VanWalleghen/Wine 10-0**)

7. 21st street revitalization project Streetscaping designs

Law Kingdon Firm presented on the recent updates for the 21st Street streetscape designs. They discussed that recently a new mini transit bus pavilion had been added to the plans and will integrate with the International Marketplace.

Aldrich stated he was concerned with the scaled back version of the Marketplace.

Skaff said this was an exciting project and happy to see the encouraged foot traffic with the use of wide sidewalks and hopes that bike racks are included. *Sidewalks will be from 10-12 ft. for pedestrian traffic.* **Fearey** included the street would go from four to three lanes.

Foster asked about the brick planters which were a part of the 1968 urban renewal. *Response was that anything soft will be maintained by Parks and anything hard would be maintained by Public Works. We have already met with Parks.*

Jerry Prichard, Indian Hills/Riverbend asked what the maximum height will be for trees. *Around 35-40 ft.*

Miller responded the Park staff works with the Kansas Extension Center. These projects weren't being seen by Parks.

Wine stated he liked what you have done with the design. Look at something that is easy to maintain on vegetation.

Fearey included by using plantings - more zeroscape there would be less mowing. We need to look at using low water maintenance plantings.

Ron Cruz, 21st Street Business asked when is it going to be done. He is excited about getting started. Carr finished saying to look carefully at vertical growing things. Stay away from soft trees hearty oak as they have a deep root system so that when trees die you are able to remove them so they aren't planted up under the lanes.

*******Action:** Receive and File

Board Agenda

8 Problem Properties

If you have any problem properties please contact Terri.

4650 N Arkansas: Every night at 5 p m horses riding on levy and behind.

*******Action:** Receive and propose appropriate action.

9. Neighborhood Reports

Mayor Brewer has begun the downtown revitalizing meetings.

Please go vote tomorrow.

***** **Action:** Receive and file.

Updates from the council member

- Dedication for Midtown Bike Path at OTIS PARK at 6 pm on Wednesday, 4-8.
- North High River Festival-Look in the newsletter.

Announcements

- Next DAB meeting will be on Monday, May 4, 2009

With no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Guests

Cindy Ponce	4505 E. 47 th St. So. cponce@youthville.org
Tom Carr	1027 W. River Blvd 67203
Jerry Prichard	1607 N. Clarence
Greg Boyajian	3325 W. 9 th
Ken Thomas	4725 Cobblestone kenthomas@tretco.com
William Wells	5162 N. Primrose Ln. 67219olypionchamp04@hotmail
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